

Calvin's Digest

By FLOYD J. CALVIN

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PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS

WHILE the Negro press has been quite vividly telling its readers all along that it that one of the arguments is indispensable to racial progress advanced by some Negroes and should, therefore, receive against the candidacy of Governor more support, the recent Jake Roosevelt of New York for the well incident serves to illustrate Presidency, was that while the just how powerful and how im-candidate himself might be allportant is this medium in mould-right, it would be the same olding group and public sentiment Democratic party which he might Jake Powell, a Yankee ballplayer lead to victory and once he got in made a prejudiced remark about office, his hands would be tied by the race over the radio. The the conservative members of the white press could not and did not party. This meant that if those take up the issue because (they felt became President, he would were thankful to say) it did not not be able to carry out a prog-originate with them. So the Negro resressive program because of the ob-press was the only agency to take structionists in his own party, and up the cudgels in behalf of the it meant also that his liberality group. Just how well this agen-toward the Negro citizen would cy did the job of protest was prov-ed by Jake Powell himself visiting Negro newspaper offices and signing an abjectly apologetic state-ment beseeching colored folk to "forgive." Our own view is that there are some things you might forget, but cannot forgive. Jake Powell's remark is one.

What a different story today! President Roosevelt has shown that he does not lack the courage, nor the initiative to launch a pro-gram which requires the making over of his own party. He has purposely gone out and asked the voters in the Democratic primaries to defeat certain obstructionists within his own ranks, and has asked that men be sent to Wash-ington as members of the Con-gress who are more broad, more liberal and more progressive in their views. What more could we want in a party leader or a Presi-dent at this time?

THREE CROWNS

The New York Herald Tribune has facetiously asked in an editorial, what has become of the theory of Nordic supremacy since Henry Armstrong captured his third world boxing title? This third crown—all three are featherweight, welterweight, and light-weight—makes Henry the master of all men between 124 and 145 pounds.

While we are no boxing enthusiasts, we view the sport as too debasing—we are proud of Henry's conquests, since by his historic prowess he has made boxing history. Never before has one man held so many titles. Henry won his laurels with the unstinted approval of the highest sports authorities and fight critics. This makes his achievement redound to the credit of the whole Negro group.

JAKE POWELL

TENSION EASED

War tension in Europe has been eased by Hitler being granted his principal demands in Czechoslovakia. Mr. Chamberlain of Great Britain is being praised as a peacemaker, but we fail to see how abject surrender to Hitler, while it averted immediate bloodshed, is anything to be proud of. It would seem that the English have lost all semblance of honor and dignity in this deal.

While war has been avoided for the time being, it will yet come, more terrible than anything the world has yet seen, and all because this war is being slowly cooked up by strong nations breaking their solemn promises and agreements with smaller nations when it is to the immediate advantage of the strong nations to do so.

"LIFE'S" APPRAISAL

The panorama of Negro life and achievement as presented in Life Magazine last week, is a major achievement for the Negro group during the current year. Life's presentation, which we are glad to say has quality as well as quantity, serves to place before the Nation the aspirations of the new and higher trained generation of Negroes. It furnishes food for thought for whites who help shape the course of American life, who do not know about us and for that reason do not care about it. It is amazing, the number of white people who still think of Negroes in terms of Aunt Jemima, Amos 'n' Andy, and Uncle Remus. It has been shocking to this writer to meet intelligent white people, some of them under 40, who readily admit that their first thought on any social question affecting a Negro, is to refer it to their colored cook, or chauffeur.



CALVIN

They are quite honest about this, and profess to see nothing wrong about the policy... It has been equally amazing to meet other whites, prominent in business, who say they did not know Negroes published newspapers of their own. Presentations such as Life has given, reach all classes of whites, and are great advertising for the race.

HON. H. A. HUNT

In the passing of Hon. H. A. Hunt, Assistant to the Governor of the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, the race loses one of its most ardent workers in the cause of its uplift. One of the first New Deal appointees, Mr. Hunt served effectively but without glamour, in bringing to the attention of Negro farmers of the South the opportunities afforded for assistance by the Federal Government.

Best known, however, for his long years of service in developing the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School in Georgia, Mr. Hunt will be mourned and missed mainly in the field of education. His passing is a sad reminder that younger shoulders, shaped largely by men like Mr. Hunt, must begin to bear the burdens of the race.

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INTERRACIAL MONUMENT

From the Broadcaster, official journal of the Tennessee Negro Education Association, Prof. George W. Gore, Jr., editor, we learn that "A monument to interracial goodwill in Tennessee is to be erected on the campus of A and I. State college. Teachers' friends of education and of humanity, are urged to contribute liberally to this cause.

"The Central Committee, headed by Dr. R. T. Burt, of Clarksville, has been working earnestly on the campaign for the fall of 1938. Thanksgiving Day has been set for final reports from organizations, cities and counties. The goal is \$10,000. If the citizens of both racial groups will respond promptly to this worthy cause the monument would be ready for unveiling during the summer of 1939.

"Tennessee has set the example for the nation in interracial cooperation and achievement. A and I. State college is the best expression of interracial goodwill in America. It is fitting and proper that such a memorial should be erected to the unsung heroes of both races that have worked together so unselfishly for racial unity. Likewise, it is appropriate that it should be located in Nashville at A. and I. State college.

"Negro teachers in Tennessee are urged to rally to this worthy cause."

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MR. JUSTICE BLACK

By Floyd Calvin

The old saying that we must ever give the devil his due is true in the case of Mr. Justice Hugo Black of Alabama, of the United States Supreme Court. A ~~known member of the Ku Klux Klan~~ ^{known member of the Ku Klux Klan}, Mr. Black now reverses himself and approves the decision of the Court to compel all schools operating on public funds to admit Negroes. This is the essence of the Gaines decision, in the case of the University of Missouri Law School.

Whether Mr. Justice Black actually believes what he says is not important. The fact remains that he voted with the majority, and the decision is binding, no matter what the private opinion of the justice might be. But we prefer to believe that Mr. Justice Black actually has changed his mind on some issues, and perhaps the question of equal rights for all citizens is one of them. We must remember that as a Supreme Court Justice, Mr. Black holds his job for life, has a good salary, a high honor, and hence can afford to speak his own mind. As Senator, it is reasonable to suppose that Mr. Black represented the sentiment of the white people of Alabama, which he was elected and paid to do, rather than reflected his own personal opinions and beliefs.

There is no telling what an individual will do when given free rein to make his own decisions, absolutely. We would wager that many white men in public life in the South today, if permitted to give their own private opinions, would be far more favorable to the principles of democracy, unqualifiedly, than they would dare to admit, under the present circumstances.

Why Can't We Have Dailies?

By ALBERT G. BARNETT

For Afri-American Youth Magazine

((EDITOR'S NOTE: Because the apparent interest of the subject matter has prompted a number of requests for re-publication of Writer Barnett's discussion of Negro dailies, it is reprinted here by courtesy of the Magazine's editors.))

Probably the most frequent question asked by the average newspaper reader of colored news-men above the rank of cub reporter is "Why can't we have Negro dailies?" The question is a logical one and reflects the lack of knowledge of the public in general as to the thousand and one details and the prodigious expense entailed in the publication of a metropolitan daily newspaper.

To understand at least some of the "whys and wherefores" it is well to consider first the function of a newspaper, which is three-fold: to assemble and disseminate news, to mold public opinion and to make money. Of these three, the last function, "to make money," the most important. Certainly, a paper constantly "in the red," cannot long survive—unless the publisher is a philanthropist with unlimited means at his disposal.

The ability of a paper to mould public opinion is, of course, in direct ratio to the paper's circulation—the number of readers it reaches. This in turn depends on the paper's ability to assemble and present news attractively and this ability reflects either favorably or unfavorably (as the case may be) on the paper's circulation. The circle is completed by advertising, allotment of which is dependent purely upon a paper's rating as to circulation. The Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC) is the highest form of newspaper rating and the basis of which space is allotted to newspapers by national advertisers.

Among the national colored weekly papers having the ABC rating are the Pittsburgh Courier, Baltimore Afro-American, Kansas City Call, Amsterdam News, Norfolk Journal and Guide, Philadelphia Tribune and Houston In-

week.

From the foregoing it is apparent that the Atlanta Daily World is a colored paper—by, of and for colored people—reached through their Home Circulation department, and thereby offering no competition to the Atlanta Constitution Atlanta Georgian, Atlanta Daily World, proudly proclaims under its masthead as "The Nation's Only Colored Daily News-paper." The rise of the Scott Newspaper Syndicate, publishers of the Atlanta Daily World, and in the Associated Press (white), associated newspapers constitutes an epic in Negro journalism. Organized ten years ago by the late W. A. Scott as editor-in-chief and his brother, C. A. Scott as general manager, the Syndicate weathered the depression, and now publishes at least 20 weeklies throughout the country besides the Atlanta Daily World.

In addition to advertising, the Atlanta World derives its chief revenue from the Home Circulation Department, which accounts for approximately 95 percent of its circulation receipts. The World's business office and circulation department has divided Atlanta into districts, each under the supervision of a manager, sells the daily and Sunday issues of the World directly to the homes for 20 cents a week. Newsstand sales are negligible, and cannot be expected to offer stiff competition to the white Atlanta dailies. The Atlanta World is of standard size, runs eight columns to the page, averages six pages daily, eight to ten and upwards (depending on advertising lineage) on Saturday and Sunday the "peak" issues of any daily newspaper.

For its news sources the Atlanta World depends upon its own (SNS), logogram for Scott Newspaper Syndicate and the (ANP) logogram for the Associated Negro Press, the nation's largest colored news-gathering and distributing agency. In addition, the World maintains special correspondents and reporters in the key cities of the nation. For news photos of international events the World has available the facilities of International News Photos, Acme Wide World and other white newsphoto services, in addition to their own staff photographers. The newsstand price of the Atlanta Daily World is five cents, or 35 cents weekly—as compared with the Home Circulation price of 20 cents per week.

It is plain therefore that Negro dailies, in whatever city they seek publication—must be papers by, of and for Negroes.

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The Negroes of America have one sole representative in the daily newspaper field—the Atlanta Daily World, proudly proclaims under its masthead as "The Nation's Only Colored Daily News-paper." The rise of the Scott Newspaper Syndicate, publishers of the Atlanta Daily World, and in the Associated Press (white), associated newspapers constitutes an epic in Negro journalism. Organized ten years ago by the late W. A. Scott as editor-in-chief and his brother, C. A. Scott as general manager, the Syndicate weathered the depression, and now publishes at least 20 weeklies throughout the country besides the Atlanta Daily World.

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It is plain therefore that Negro dailies, in whatever city they seek publication—must be papers by, of and for colored people—reached through their Home Circulation department, and thereby offering no competition to the Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta Georgian, Atlanta Journal and the Sunday American, the other white Atlanta newspapers. Should the World attempt to invade the "white field", and try to get membership in the Associated Press (white), and franchises from the International News Service (Hearst) and the United Press (Scripps-Howard), the World wouldn't last "as long as Pat stayed in the army," because the World would then be an interloper, a trespasser in the white Atlanta newspaper field, which is adequately covered by the existing daily papers.

It is plain therefore that Negro dailies, in whatever city they seek publication—must be papers by, of and for Negroes, must not come in direct competition with the

white press. Such competition ising of the Chicago Evening Post useless, an inevitable waste of on Wacker Drive which now house time, talent and money.

Because of their necessarily cir- and editorial, circulation and busi- cumscribed sphere it is best forness departments. Starting from colored newspapers to confinescratch, the Daily Times, an eve just out. Our pride is based on their publishing efforts to live,ning tabloid, now has upwards of sparkling, informative news about 350,000 (AVC) circulation.

their own people. This is their chief function, their real objective and if strictly adhered to, makes Negro newspapers comparable to the Jewish, Italian and German papers catering to the "foreign" communities typical of New York, Chicago and other metropolitan cities.

If colored papers would publish all the news concerning the social, civic, political, economic, religious and fraternal life of their own people all over the world, they will have undertaken a big assignment and ustified their existence. It is far better to do one job well, than several poorly. This truism has inspired a Texas weekly to adopt the slogan: "We don't cover the world, but we raise hell in our little corner."

"Not only is it impossible for Negroes to start new daily papers in competition with whites, but the whites themselves, regardless of how much money they represent, are confined to strict limitations in the attempt to launch a new daily in any of the nation's metropolitan or "key" cities. In Chicago, for instance, no publisher can start a new daily no matter how much money he has—unless he gets an Associated Press membership. These memberships at present are held by the Chicago Tribune, the Herald an Examiner, the Daily Times, Daily News and Evening American. No new Associated Press membership can be allotted to Chicago, unless agreed to by any newspaper is to make money the publishers of the dailies just named, and this of course, is out of the question, because to allow publication of a new competitor sheet would mean a curtailment of revenue for the existing papers.

White publishers have one alternative. They can buy an Associated Press membership from one of the above-named newspapers—provided they can find a seller. How hard a task this is can be seen from the fact that Chicago's dailies (with the exception of the Daily Times) have been published from 20 to 75 years, have no intention or desire to go out of business. In the case of the Daily Times, about eight years old, the publishers bought the Associated Press membership from the Chicago Evening Journal, then bought the new build-

ing of the Chicago Evening Post on Wacker Drive which now house the Daily Times' mechanical plan and editorial, circulation and business departments. Starting from scratch, the Daily Times, an evening tabloid, now has upwards of 350,000 (AVC) circulation.

The other two leading news services of the country—the International News Service and United Press—are allocated on franchise, not by membership, as is the Associated Press. (AP) is also the originator of the Wirephoto, having developed this art of the wire transmission of photo after years of research and after it was "turned down" by the INS and UP services. Of the 2,000 and more daily newspapers throughout the nation, catering to a daily reading population of 38,000,000, the Associated Press services more than 1,200 daily papers, is considered the world's No. 1 news-gathering agency and the journalistic yardstick by which a paper's standing is gauged.

It is readily seen, therefore, that if white publishers of wealth can not establish new papers in metropolitan cities because of news service restrictions, Negroes are definitely "out of the picture". They can, however (publish papers—by of and for Negroes—develop the Atlanta Daily World's Home Circulation idea, and all things else being equal), make money.

Chicago's Jewish, Polish, Chinese, German and other nationalities groups all have their daily newspapers, all seemingly make money, for despite the idealism and altruism of misguided mental conceptions, the first function of any newspaper is to make money

The Negro publishers of America have in the Associated Negro Press the counterpart of the white Associated Press. It collects, rewrites and distributes news to upwards of 100 of the nation's 200 colored newspapers. Its (ANP) logogram is as familiar to millions of Negro readers throughout the country as is the (AP) to the whites. ANP service is accurate constructive and comprehensive—envisions the day when, in addition to its growing list of Negro weeklies, it will also service those pioneer publishers who "let down their water buckets where they are" and publish newspapers—by of and for colored readers.

NEW NEWSPAPER LIST

We take much pride in the new Negro Newspaper List carried in the International Book number of Editor and Publisher, just out. Our pride is based on several facts, chief of which are, first, that more newspapers are listed this year than ever before; second, the small papers, as a class, are given an equal opportunity to shine in the greatest newspaper authority in the world; and third, the list is more nearly accurate this year than ever before, even though some errors of commission and omission crept into it.

At this point we wish to suggest that editors, in the future, consider more carefully their statements when asked for a voluntary report on their papers. A few papers are listed with circulation figures which are absurd, but the number was carried simply because the editor gave it. It is always good policy to appear at your best, but always poor policy to attempt to be what you are not. Some editors, clearly, are trying to fool the public. On the whole, however, the statements seem to be reasonable, we are glad to say.

The time is coming, in the Negro field, when standard sources of information will be used, almost exclusively, by persons or enterprises interested in doing business in this field, and that makes it important that our newspapers work hard, and try to show a little improvement from year to year, rather than try to reach giant proportions overnight.

SOVIET PRESS COMMENTS ON RACE PAPERS

Says Editorial Policy Is Unstable On Various Issues

By CHATWOOD HALL
MOSCOW, U. S. S. R., Feb. 25—
"The Negro Press in the United States" is the title of the leading article in the foreign section of the current number of the Soviet magazine. "Bolshevik Press" organ of

the Soviet press and publishing organizations. Stating that there are 106 Negro newspapers in America, the circulation of the 94 weekly Race newspapers is given as 978,158 copies, while the circulation of all Race newspapers — daily, weekly, twice and thrice weekly, etc.—totals 1,220,198 copies.

Criticism is made of the editorial policy of some of the newspapers in that they often adopt unstable and reactionary positions on various issues and "fly from reform and reaction to liberalism and conservatism." But at the same time, the article states, the Negro press does carry on a struggle against lynching and of terror against Negroes in the southern states.

"Of the Negro newspapers," states the article, "the Chicago Defender is the most widely read and distributed. This newspaper, which is published in a large and modern plant, is comparable in its organization to the greatest American bourgeois newspapers. It has its sections for foreign, sports, theatrical, women, children, and local and domestic news.

"The Chicago Defender is read not only in the United States, but also in Europe and South America. This newspaper has offices in seven of the largest American cities and also correspondents abroad. Published twice a week, the Chicago Defender is from 20 to 24 pages in size."

ATTACKING THE PRESS

FRANK R. CROSSWAITH, chairman of the Negro Labor Committee and general organizer of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, issued a release making a vicious attack on the Negro press. The release was sent to Negro newspapers presumably for publication. Says Mr. Crosswaith:

"After much observation and experience with the Negro press, one finds it difficult to escape the conclusion that Negro journalism, with a few notable exceptions, has adhered pretty faithfully to the type of journalism described in "The Brass Check".....It is morally impossible to offer a forthright defense of the Negro press.....Negro working men and women today in ever encouraging numbers are learning the efficacy and importance of economic organization. Why don't Negro journalists encourage this trend?"

Mr. Crosswaith's motive is given away in the last question. He is peeved because the Harlem press hasn't given more publicity to

his Negro Labor Committee. His argument is a selfish one and will not stand careful examination. For it is a fact that a big majority of the Negro newspapers have urged Negroes to organize and have given columns of publicity to labor news. But since Labor's house has been divided against itself, with the resultant internal struggle between the C. I. O. and the A. F. of L., editors generally have refrained from paying much attention to the affairs of any local labor group, lest they incur the wrath of the rival labor group. Until such time as Labor is able to put up a united front, not only the press but the professional labor agitators.

Editors are human and do not like to be bullied any more than does Mr. Crosswaith. We cannot understand, therefore, why Mr. Crosswaith would expect Negro editors to publish an attack on themselves, even though it came from him. Most of the criticism of the Negro press has come from those connected with some "cause" for which they have sought public support through the Negro press. As long as the papers publish-

ed their releases, they were okey but if the editor exercised his judgement by editing or "killing" the release, he immediately became a bad fellow. Much more consideration may be secured if these leaders would meet the editor personally, ascertain his policy and get an explanation of what he (the editor) considers news before sending in propaganda and sometimes advertising which he wishes published as news free of charge.

NEGRO NEWSPAPERS

MRS. H. V. GEAR

(Semper Fidelis Club, April 18, 1938)

The story of the history and development of the Negro press in America is a fascinating one. The first newspaper of any kind to be printed on this continent appeared in Boston on September 25, 1690 under the name of "Public Occurrences" and it was edited by Benjamin Harris. About one hundred and thirty-seven years afterward, Negro journalism had its origin.

The history of the Negro press may be divided into three periods—the Pre-Civil War Period, the Post Civil War Period, and the Post World War Period.

The first Negro newspaper published in this country was "Freedom's Journal" which was begun on March 30, 1827 in New York, with John B. Russworm as editor. "Freedom's Journal" was soon suspended because of the fight it was making for the cause of abolition. Russworm was captured by the colonization society and sent to Africa.

Just as the purpose of our first Negro newspaper is found in its name, a glance at titles of other Negro newspapers such as the Chicago Defender, The Herald of Freedom, The Black Dispatch, The Colored American, The Elevator and The Challenge, proves that the primary justification of the Negro newspaper is to reflect the spirits, and the yearning of a submerged group. In other words, these papers seek to print the other half of the news which would otherwise never be printed.

The fact that Negroes had been brought to this country only two centuries before the publication of their first newspaper makes the attempt more remarkable. Freedom's Journal, coming before William Lloyd Garrison's "Liberator" and at a time when opposition to slavery was still highly unpopular is monumental to Russworm who was the first Negro to graduate from a college in America.

The Freedom's Journal was a weekly sheet. On the first page of the issue of the Journal for March 30, 1827 were three articles. One was a continuation of the "Memories of Captain Paul Cuffee"; the second was an essay on "People of Color" and the third was a bit of news about a cure for drunkenness. The motto of the paper was "Righteousness Exalteth a Nation".

After a while Russworm edited another paper entitled "Rights of All", a neatly printed and creditable organ. Its publication ceased in 1830. Russworm was forced to go to Liberia where he taught school and published the "Liberia Herald". Weekly Advocate was probably the first Negro publication in all the most outstanding.

No Negro publication in all the Pre-Civil War days stirred the public so much as "Walker's Appeal", a pamphlet published in several editions. David Walker, a free Negro from North Carolina began holding meetings in a second hand clothing store which had opened in Boston. As an outgrowth of the meeting, he began his famous pamphlet. The South was greatly aroused over the contents and went so far as to imprison men for having it in their possession.

From 1830 to the time of the Civil War, there appeared about 25 or 30 newssheets. Only a few were outstanding and they all had as their main objective the eventual freedom of the slaves. Their most interesting aspect perhaps was the fact that they did give some indications of the thoughts of free and literate Negroes. Of the writers immediately following The Ram's Horn was the answer Russworm, Dr. James McCune, to this challenge, for Hodges was Smith editor of the New York immediately awakened to the tremendous

loss that his people were not only ended slavery but de-established about this time. The suffering, as a result of the destroyed, in a measure, the cause Cleveland Gazette appeared in pension of Afro-American publica-for which the Negro press existed. 1883, the Philadelphia Tribune in tion. The Ram's Horn carried the The Colored American was the 1884, and in 1885 came the Savan-motto, "We are men, and therefore first paper of the period started in nah Tribune and the Richmond interested in whatever concerns the South. It began in October, Planet. The New York Age was on its staff for a short time. The of the creditors. It was followed followed in 1892 by W. C. King. name of Douglass contributed pres-by others that died as swiftly. A This year also marked the begin-tige and influence to the paper paper which was not short lived ning of the Afro-American. No Among the ardent supporters and was the New National Era which doubt, the reason for the success contributors of the paper was Frederick Douglass started in achieved by these papers can be John Brown, the famous white abo-Washington after the war. The traced to the forceful personalities tionist. associate editor was Richard T. of their editors. Men like John

The Ram's Horn was very neatly Greener who is remembered be-Mitchell Jr., of the Planet, Harry printed and presented a pleasing cause he was the first Negro to C. Smith of the Gazette, T. Thomas journalistic appearance. Each is-graduate from Harvard college. Fortune of the Age and William sue of the fine column folio con-Another paper which formed an Calvin Chase of the Bee might be sisted mostly of anti-slavery senti-exception to the rule of quick fail-compared with the great journal-ment from the editors as well as sure was the Elevator of San Fran-ists of the white press such as from the able contributors. After cisco. Greely, Bennet and Dana.

From the year 1866 on, Afro-Thomas Fortune is considered by many to have been the most out-standing figure in Afro-American journalism. When he was a mere lad, he developed a love for printer's ink which remained with him throughout his life. His first journalistic venture was the New York Globe. After it suspended publication, he became publisher of the New York Freeman, which proved to be the most popular of Negro journals of the time. It was later changed to the New York Age, as it is known today.

The Pre-World War period is in effect the latter part of the Post-Civil War Period, or the adulthood of the Negro press. By this time most of the early editors had passed away along with their newspapers. In this period just prior to the World War there were established a number of papers that are still in existence. Among them are: The Boston Guardian, 1901, Chicago Defender 1905, New York Amsterdam News, 1909, Pittsburgh Courier, 1910. zz

Of the group just named, the development of the Chicago Defender is indeed interesting. Unlike Carl Murphy of the Afro-American, the editor and founder of the Defender met with much difficulty in attempting to acquire an education. When he learned newspaper work, Robert S. Abbott was past thirty. Various rumors have placed the weekly circulation of the Defender all the way from 10,000 to 250,000. Starting with little capital, Abbott has succeeded in building his paper into \$500,000 corporation. The Defender resembles the William Randolph Hearst

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papers so much that it is oftening surveys and appointing representatives for the Chicago Defender interest for the Negro? Unless the owner. The newspapers comprising answer is in the affirmative the

During the turmoil of the Civil War Period, the Black Dispatch was begun by its present editor, Roscoe Dunjee. From its modest beginning in 1915, it has steadily grown and is now the only Negro paper printed in the South by a stereotyped and mat making equipment. At the initial appearance of the paper, Editor Dunjee served as editor in chief, news reporter, advertising manager, and feature writer. After three years one man was employed. At that time, the equipment consisted of hand set forms and high stools. A bit later two collectors were hired. During the sixth year a linotype machine and another employee were added. The business grew. An advertising manager and two compositors were added and the office force grew to four. In 1937, the paper secured new equipment. The plant is now worth \$35,000. The press is 16-page Goss straight line perfecting press. There are now twelve employees. The paper has a circulation of 14,000 with 250 agents all over the country, but particularly located in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas. The Black Dispatch does not count its circulation solely among Negroes. Half the papers sold in practically all Oklahoma towns are bought by whites. In Tishomingo almost all the papers are sold to whites.

Negro newspapers came into their own after the World War. Thousands of Negroes had gone to foreign countries. Upon returning, they grew aware of their environment and proceeded to revolutionize the thinking of the race. The following papers sprang into existence: The Houston Informer, Kansas City Call and Washington Tribune in 1919; the Louisiana Weekly, 1925, and the Cleveland Eagle, 1933. It was not until after the World War that journalism was given any attention by Negroes as a likely profession. Printing of papers heretofore had only been a part time job. At the time Negro youths were awakened to the possibilities of careers in journalism and began the study of journalism in large colleges and universities such as Minnesota, New York University and Nebraska University and Ohio State. The Associated Negro Press was the first successful news organization developed. C. A. Barnett founded this cooperative news gathering agency in 1919 after he had spent a year in traveling, making surveys and appointing representatives for the Chicago Defender interest for the Negro? Unless the owner. The newspapers comprising answer is in the affirmative the

There are three customary legal forms of business organization (1) individual ownership, (2) partnership, (3) corporation. It has been estimated that over 75 per cent of all Negro publications have the individual ownership form. This is the result of the small size of these publications. The largest and most successful of Negro papers are under the corporate form. The Negro weekly is the principal source of information concerning Negroes. "The Negro press in a real sense, it first of, by and for the Negro race," says P. B. Young, of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, continuing he says "The Negro editor's primary news cri-

terion is: Has this story a peculiar interest for the Negro? Unless the answer is in the affirmative the newspaper gets an immediate assignment in all parts of the country. One of the chief weaknesses of Negro newspapers at the time was their lack of dependable facilities for gathering news, and so these organizations added much needed improvement. The Associated Negro Press maintains agencies in every civilized country. There are approximately 127 Negro newspapers in the U. S. today and they are scattered over 32 states and the District of Columbia. In general those states with the largest percentage of Negro population also have the largest number of Negro publications. Mississippi and Georgia are exceptions. Those states having no Negro publications are with a comparatively small Negro population. The large majority of Negro weeklies in the U. S. have grown up without giving any thought to the fundamentals of paper business organizations. It is true that some of them have managed to survive, but others have fallen by the wayside. Too much stress in the past has been placed on the editorial side of the paper while the business side was neglected. At present, however, progressive Negro newspaper publishers are beginning to give the business aspects of newspaper work a fair share of attention. In addition to organization there are many other factors necessary for success. In the first place, there must be a demand for the paper. Any city with several strong newspapers should not be avoided when seeking a location for establishment. Second, it must carry the people's kind of news. In the third place, is the question of sufficient capital. The problem of capital has been a major problem to Negro publishers but several have succeeded in solving it.

The Atlanta World, published in Atlanta, Ga., is the only Negro daily newspaper in existence. It is within its third year. Negro dailies will not be entirely successful until the economic status of race is raised and firmly entrenched. Meanwhile the Negro weeklies are praiseworthy spokesmen for our race—Jennie Eudailey Gear.

(NOTE: Material in this article obtained from Library at University of Kansas, Dunbar Branch Library and Mr. Roscoe Dunjee, editor of the Black Dispatch.)

Sylacauga, Ala., Advance

April 14, 1938

THE NEGRO IN JOURNALISM

6H
Practically all negro publications in the South are weeklies. During the last decade typical papers have been established in Dallas, Houston, Norfolk, Richmond, Savannah, Atlanta and Birmingham. The Norfolk Journal and Guide is rated the best edited of the lot with the Savannah Tribune next.

In size and make-up they greatly resemble their white daily contemporaries. In addition they have race syndicate features of every variety for every shade of taste.

An interesting development in Negro journalism in the South is the special edition for negro subscribers, a device adopted by many white dailies in recent years. Some page of a regular edition is made over for news gathered under the direction of a "Colored editor". This edition is valid in that it gratifies the elemental desire of human beings to read about themselves.

Against Hampton

Editor Atlanta Daily World:

I have read with a great deal of interest in your paper of Thursday, October 20, also in the Atlanta Constitution of Wednesday, October 19, that Milton S. Hampton, editor of the Negro Journal of Industry plans opening permanent offices here within the next few days, to make an impartial study of the wage-hour law and its effect on Negro workers in the South.

10-23-38
I sincerely trust that none of your readers will give him his endorsement or cooperation, for we note that he says, "Progress of the Negro in the South has been made possible through his employer's friendly cooperation. The Negro worker has called on his boss for help in getting his brother out of jail, to finance an operation on his wife, and for money to build his church."

Atlanta
His employer has never failed him. Employers have called on him to finish a job after work hours, or to return to the plant in an emergency, and the Negro has not failed. People in other sections can't understand it, but here in the South the Negro and his employer render each other services that can't be figured in terms of wages and hours. There will be against anything which will tend to upset the relationship.

The relationship which Mr. Hampton wants to see exist between the Negro and his employer, I am sure is not what the Negro as a group wants. The Negro works overtime and pretends to like it because he knows from the past that to show disapproval means the losing of his job.

He wants progress, but by the same formula and method as the white man. One would be able to get his own brother out of jail, and to finance an operation or meet other emergencies were he justly paid for his services.

I wonder has Mr. Hampton ever had the first hand experience of working with a large group of whites and Negroes, where the groups did the same amounts of work in an equal number of hours. Yet, the Negro group received less wages for its work, whispered among the group about the existing unfairness, but failed to breath dissatisfaction to the employer because of fear of wholesale job loss.

cause of fear of wholesale job loss and achievements of Negroes (especially those in southwest Georgia) and the expression of editorial opinion reflecting the publisher's view on conditions and situations in his area.

In the South the Negro usually takes whatever comes because he realizes that he lacks organization and is unable to do anything about it.

I read an editorial quite a long time ago in an Atlanta daily which told a story of two large factory owners operating in the same town. Number one working his men at good pay, which he considered fair pay. Whenever an employee requested aid of his employer he was refused because the employer knew his wages were substantial enough to take care of one during emergencies.

So every one in the town called number one a mean inconsiderate person. Number two worked his men at pay on which the employee and his family barely existed. However, whenever money was needed in case of sickness, death, or as Mr. Hampton says, where one's brother needed "getting" out of jail or for a wife's operation number two came to the rescue.

So everybody called number two a good man. But is it not easy to see that number two effected his rescues with part of the money he should have paid in wages?

I for one as do other intelligent Negroes would rather have good pay for what I do hour for hour, than the relationship Mr. Hampton speaks of.

JAMES LACY
Atlanta, Ga.

New Journal To Make Bow At Albany, Ga.

ready used
The SOUTHWEST GEORGIAN a new publication, will make its appearance this Friday, Nov. 11, at Albany, Georgia.

Editor and publisher of the new publication is Prof. V. W. Hodges dean at Georgia Normal in Albany and former head of the Department of Sociology at Clark University in Atlanta. The talented young educator is well equipped for the field of journalism.

The organ has set as its aims the chronicling of the worthwhile news

The SOUTHWEST GEORGIAN becomes the twenty-eighth newspaper in the SNS chain.

LONG-DISTANCE CALLS RESULT IN LOSS OF JOB

Aurelius Scott Dropped From Staff of Syndicate Following Disagreement Over Deduction From Salary Check

ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 10—As a result of a disturbance caused at the Birmingham World office last Friday night, C. A. Scott, general manager of the Scott Newspaper Syndicate and administrator of the Estate of W. A. Scott, announces that Aurelius S. Scott, is no longer employed by the paper.

The trouble began when Aurelius was given his salary check which showed a substantial deduction for long-distance calls of a personal nature.

Administrator Scott also states that because of the disgruntled attitude of Aurelius over his share in the newspaper enterprise under the will of his deceased brother, immediate steps would be taken to give him his equity out of the estate.

The paper's manager further states that over a period of time Aurelius has deliberately caused disturbances in order to embarrass him and the business.

The dissatisfied Scott has a one-and two-seventh percent interest in the Scott estate and has been employed as a reporter.

Chicago Defender Ignores Attack Made on Circulation By The Pittsburgh Courier

Black Dispatch
Business Manager Says Peak Was Reached in 1924;
Figure Now 107,000

Says "Will Be Here When Others Gone"

-22-38
NEW YORK.—(C)—The expected "fireworks" between the Pittsburgh Courier and the Chicago Defender because of a "low" circulation figure published for the Defender by the Courier on January 1, apparently won't come off, according to an exclusive statement by V. J. Washington, business manager of the Robert S. Abbott Publishing company, 8435 Indiana Avenue, Chicago, Wednesday, in which he declares: "The Chicago Defender is not at all interested in what other papers have to say. Attempts have been made to use it as a door mat for some twenty years. In spite of this it has weathered all storms and has more prestige and power than any other Negro publication in America. While we are making no unusual boasts as to our future, we sincerely believe that we will still be here when many of the others are gone."

Discussing the Defender circulation in detail, Washington said: "The Chicago Defender reached and passed the 100,000 circulation mark in 1919 during the World War. It reached its peak in 1924 when the total paid circulation averaged 198,000. It remained at the 100,000 mark until June 1930 the lowest ebb was reached in the summer again and reached the 100,000 point in September, 1936. The present circulation is 107,000."

Robert S. Abbott Is *Defender* 3-5-38 Honored By Women; *Chicago, Ill.* Gov. Horner Speaks

More than three hundred people, including Governor Horner of Illinois, notables from local universities, and state dignitaries gathered at the Chicago Woman's club to honor Robert Sengstacke Abbott, editor and founder of the Chicago Defender, to whom a testimonial banquet was tendered by the Chicago and Northern District Association of Colored Women, last Friday. Following the presentation of a scroll, bearing the signatures of a countless number of admirers, friends, and members of the Association of Colored Women. Editor Abbott, in a clear and impressive manner, recited the history of the development of his institution. And, as he proceeded with the difficult and dramatic stages of his career, he was interrupted again and again by loud and prolonged applause. His audience was visibly moved as he testified to the accomplishments that have been made through his newspaper.

Pleased With Work
He said: "I have no regrets; no tears to shed for the labor and sacrifice entailed in the development of my institution; it is yours also; and I know that you are proud of it, as well as I." Then, in a voice that trembled with emotion, and deep earnestness, he stated: "It is quite a pleasant revelation to me, and to those who may follow me, to know that who-soever champions the cause of suffering humanity carves for himself an abiding place in the hearts of those whom he seeks to serve." He also thrilled his hearers when he said, towards the close of his address: "If, in the years I have served mankind, my labor can be measured in terms of good, in terms of social welfare, in terms of cultural up-lifting, in terms of interracial good-will—then I have served you well, and I trust that I will not suffer the fate of 'great men' who, like great institutions, after having rendered their services to humanity and civilization, are deposited at the foot of their work as worn out tools."

Governor Horner, who spoke at length on the brilliant career of Mr. Abbott as a journalist and as a

publisher, pointed out to the black and white audience the inestimable value of the services that have been rendered to the people of the nation by Mr. Abbott through the columns of the Chicago Defender. Other speakers included Prof. Ernest Burgess, head of the department of sociology at the University of Chicago; Attorney Edward H. Morris, George O. Fairweather, business manager of the University of Chicago; Commissioner Wendell E. Green of the civil service, and a host of others who occupied seats at the speakers table.

CHICAGO (ILL.) TRIBUNE
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 26 1938
ILLINOIS CIVIC
LEADERS HONOR
NEGRO PUBLISHER

Gov. Horner was among several hundred prominent persons who honored Robert S. Abbott, pioneer colored publisher, at a testimonial banquet last night in the Chicago Woman's club, 72 East 11th street. Abbott is publisher of the Chicago Defender, daily colored paper, which he founded in 1903. The governor said that Abbott has contributed much to the welfare of his people, to the city, and state.

Those present included Prof. Ernest Burgess and George Fairweather, business manager, both of the University of Chicago; Wendell E. Green, city civil service commissioner; Mrs. Marie McDowell, Municipal court social service director, and Mrs. Nannie Reed, president of the Illinois Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. Telegrams were sent by Mayor Kelly, State's Attorney Courtney, and F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee institute.

Chicago Pupils Edit Newspaper

-11-38
published
CHICAGO, Nov. 3.—(ANP)—The pupils of Phillips school are editing a weekly newspaper, carrying news of the school, written by two groups: the senior group, consisting of grades 6, 7 and 8, and the junior group, including grades 9, 10 and 11. The school plans to launch a printed newspaper during the second semester.

GUESTS AT TESTIMONIAL BANQUET FOR EDITOR



At the testimonial dinner tendered Editor Robert S. Abbott last Friday were a number of distinguished guests. Seated at the

speakers table were from left to right: Mrs. Nannie Mae Millian, Mrs. Fannie Carter, Mrs. Fannie Baxter, Commissioner Wendell E. Green, Prof. Ernest Burgess, head

of department of sociology at University of Chicago; Mrs. Robert S. Abbott, Editor Robert S. Abbott, Governor Henry Horner of Illinois, Mrs. Irene McCoy Gaines,

president of the Chicago and Northern District Association of Colored Women and George O. Fairweather, business manager of the University of Chicago.

MAGAZINE TELLS OF CLIFF BLOUNT, ARMLESS WONDER

Chicago, Dec. 28 (AP)—How he overcame the almost hopeless handicap of losing both arms at an early age to make his way through school and eventually become an independent business man in Chicago, revealed by Clifford Blount, now 35, in the November-December issue of Outwitting Handicaps, a bi-monthly magazine.

Mr. Blount, whose ability to use his mechanical "arms" is so great that he was the subject of a cartoon by Believe-It-Or-Not Ripley last year, was in his early teens in Texas when an auto accident resulted in the amputation of his arm. He faced the life of a helpless beggar unless he could master what seemed an insurmountable obstacle.

Since his family was poor, he had to struggle as best he could for an

education. No school in Texas would accept him because of his physical handicaps, but Wiley College. Since he had learned to use a typewriter with his mechanical appendages, he was able to travel all over the country giving that and other exhibitions of how an armless boy could care for himself, and from his lectures was able to finish school.

At college he was a social outcast, and after graduation his disability prevented getting a job of teaching.

Coming North, he tried to take a business course in Chicago but was stopped by lack of funds. Again he took up lecturing and went about the country. He tried to spend a week in Cuba but officials would not let him land for fear he would be a dependent, and once in St. Paul he was thrown in jail for vagrancy because he had no arms. But he refused to become discouraged, and on coming back to Chicago in 1933 saw an opportunity to start a business at the 58th street elevator station. With \$2 capital, he bought and sold until at present he owns a complete news agency, rental library and currency exchange giving employment to several other Negroes

*Wendell E. Green
3-5-38
Chicago, Ill.*

James F. Bozeman Of Associated Negro Press Expected In Springfield To Take Over Position

Prominent Writer To Manage Illinois State Times Broadcast Publications In Four Major Cities

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—(S N S)—

James F. Bozeman, former newspaper publisher and editor and now one of the nationally famous feature writers with the Associated Negro Press, will sever direct connections with "ANP" to assume executive duties with the newly organized Illinois State Times Broadcast Publications, Ltd.

Mr. Bozeman was appointed the extended growth of a much-needed medium of journalistic expression.

Mr. Bozeman was appointed the extended growth of a much-needed medium of journalistic expression. He will be in charge of the editorial set-up by Rayfield W. Gorum, publisher and owner of the Times Broadcast Publications. The new enlarged publishing company is expected to complete all minor details and begin publication within the next two weeks in four major cities. Bozeman will direct the activities of the entire Times Broadcast Publication staffs, which will include individual publications in four of the major cities of down state Illinois, namely, East St. Louis, Danville, Quincy and the local edition which will be increased from eight to fourteen pages and will include within its folds the current news and activities of Springfield, Bloomington, Decatur and Jacksonville. Lincoln and Taylorville news will also be published.

Eugene Covington Edits Local Edition

Eugene Covington, graduate of Illinois State Normal College, was appointed managing editor of the enlarged Springfield Times Broadcast. The name Springfield will be dropped when Mr. Covington assumes active management in favor of the title "The Four Star Times-Broadcast."

Mr. Covington will arrive in Springfield next week to confer with James F. Bozeman and William Underwood of Jacksonville, who also will hold an executive position with the new concern.

The Springfield Times Broadcast has been the gracious receiver of many compliments on services rendered. Publishers of the Times Broadcast ask your continued support and cooperation to assist in

Newspapers and Magazines - 1938

Kansas.

THE KANSAS AMERICAN

Published Every Friday

Office Room No. 3, Dunbar Hotel

6-24-38 PHONE 2-5895
Address All Communications to Lock Box 261
Topeka, Kansas

EUGENE LUCAS

— PUBLISHER

Newspapers and Magazines-1938

Louisiana.



Mrs. Mayme Osby-Browne, editor of the Louisiana Weekly, New Orleans. Mrs. Browne is viting in the East, speaking at Howard University, Livingstone College, and in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Richmond and Atlanta. In Atlanta she will address members of the celebrated 27 Club.

Tupelo, Miss. News
August 26, 1938

NEGROES PLAN STATE PAPER

Inter-racial leaders among negroes in the state are planning to release "The Mississippi Defender," a monthly magazine soon. The first issue is being dedicated to The Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's clubs, of which B. L. Johnson of the Prentiss Institute is president.

The Mississippi Defender, according to information received, will be prepared in Mississippi, by Mississippians, for Mississippians. Its official staff will be Anselm J. Finch, editor; B. F. Brooks, business manager. This publication will be the official organ of "Song of the Soul," a negro association recently organized to feature negro spirituals.

"Unfortunately," Finch said, "important programs of inter-racial good-will have too often been left with persons Mississippi knew nothing about, and in turn knew too little about Mississippi."

The first issue of The Mississippi Defender will be presented before the Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women when it convenes at the Prentiss Institute in October. The federation has been instrumental in encouraging the movement of a home for the delinquent negro youth.

Among its officers are B. L. Johnson, Prentiss; E. B. Miller, Yazoo City; N. D. Hardy, Piney Woods; A. C. Mallory, Lexington; R. O. Hubert, Jackson; L. C. Jefferson, Vicksburg; F. O. Robinson, Jackson; M. C. Booe, Mound Bayou; M. E. Holtzclaw, Utica Institute; L. J. Rowan, Alcorn; R. C. Lee, Lexington; and scores of other leading colored women throughout the state.

The Mississippi Defender's first issue will give a complete account of the organization's activities relative to the delinquent home project for negroes.

Jackson, Miss. News
August 31, 1938

State's Negro Writers Ready With 'Defender'

Many phases of negro life in Mississippi, and many of the state's

best negro writers will be included in "The Mississippi Defender," which will be released soon, according to Anselm J. Finch, of Brandon, the editor.

The paper is dedicated to the Mississippi State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, which will meet in October at Prentiss Institute.

Among contributors to the first issue are: William H. Holtzclaw, who will write on: "Mississippi's Inter-Racial Progress." (Holtzclaw is the head of the Utica Institute); Laurence C. Jones, "My Work at Piney Woods"; A. L. Johnson, Prentiss, "Rural Education Among Negroes"; W. W. Blackburn, Jackson, "The Educational Outlook of the Mississippi Negro"; S. D. Redmond, Jackson, "The Economic Ill of the Negro"; F. O. Alexander, Jackson, "The Negro Women of the State"; W. Milan Davis, Okolona, "The Mississippi Negro's History"; Dr. G. A. Price, Jackson, "The Songs of the Negro"; M. G. Whiteside, "The Greater Jackson College"; Dr. A. L. Holland, Jackson, "Gulfside's Contribution to Mississippi"; M. M. Hubert, Jackson, "The Negro's Farm and Home." Bishop S. L. Greene, "Appreciation of My Native State"; W. L. Whoon, Jackson, "My Practice of Law in Mississippi"; President John B. Long, Edwards, "Signs of Progress"; President William H. Bell, Alcorn, "The Negro Student of Today"; Rev. W. A. Bender, Tougaloo, "Tougaloo's Mississippi Friends"; Principal I. S. Sanders, Jackson, "The High School Negro Student," and F. L. Nichols, Biloxi, "The Adults Are Encouraged."



Herald 1-1-38 Newark, N.J.
The past year saw Jocko Maxwell, son of William Maxwell who is a member of the editorial staff of a white daily paper. add to his reputation as a radio commentator.

Newspapers and Magazines—1938

Day Crisis
From Schools
In Washington

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — The Crisis magazine was finally baryed from the public schools of the District Wednesday, following action by the board of education in adopting the recommendation of a special committee that the magazine be not approved. Investigation of the Crisis had been before the committee for more than a year.

In presenting the committee report Dr. Frank W. Ballou said that editors of the magazine had been invited to attend a meeting of the committee on February 16, but did not choose to appear.

The magazine was blacklisted when school officers contended that words offensive to the Negro race were used in various articles. Roy Wilkins, as editor, said the words were not used in a derogatory sense, and only as quoted remarks.

The Negro History Bulletin was okayed by the board for use in the schools.

CALVIN'S
Newspaper Service
143 West 125th Street
New York City
Serving 136 Papers in 38 States
Founded 1935

Newspaper Men To Be
Guests Of Wm. Banks
In Elk's Grill Room

The custom of William H. Banks, manager of the home of Brooklyn Lodge of Elks, No. 32, to make some outstanding group the guest of the lodge on the occasion of the monthly Sunday afternoon matinee in the lodge's grill room will be inaugurated for the fall and winter season on Sunday, November 6.

Mr. Banks, who for many years has been widely known in the amusement world has selected representatives from all the newspapers serving Greater New York as his guests for the opening Sunday afternoon. In honor of the expected newspaper men, he has arranged an unusually attractive program and has provided the scribes an after-

noon of real Brooklyn hospitality. Charles T. Magill, well known fraternal writer, will be master of ceremonies.

These Sunday afternoon matinees in the grill room of the lodge located at 1065 Fulton street have become one of Brooklynites' most popular pastimes.

Technician, 31, Named
Editor Radio Magazine

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The story of Rufus P. Turner, thirty-one year old radio wizard who has just been named managing editor of Radio, one of America's outstanding technical journals, is told in the November issue of Opportunity Magazine. 11-12-38

Turner has been with Radio since August of this year. Before that he was employed by the Waltham Watch Company to develop radio-controlled clocks and watches, and by the National Company of Boston, manufacturers of short-wave apparatus, as a radio engineer.

The most amazing feature of his career is that he has had no formal training in radio or radio engineering in his entire career. A graduate of Armstrong High School, Washington, D. C., he startled wireless experts while a student there by building a radio set on a common pin. It was this set that first won national attention for him and led to his employment by the Waltham Company.

SAYS FIELD OPEN

According to the magazine article, Mr. Turner firmly believes that the field of radio operation and engineering is one that is open to Negroes from the bottom to the top.

"But," he is quoted as saying, "the Negro applicant for a position must have, in addition to the fundamental knowledge that he can obtain in school or at the workbench, an extra something—some specialized training or experience not obtainable either in the college or in the laboratory. His task, then, is first to get a thorough background of training, then to acquire experience at the particular branch of work he has chosen, and finally to develop for himself a specialized field in which he can 'get the jump' on others with equal training and experience.

"There are unlimited possibilities for the Negro worker in radio, but each individual must make his own way . . . Radio is like any other field—a colored man must be twice as good as the best white applicant or he's not even considered . . ."

30 SUCCESS STORIES TELL
HOW COLORED CELEBRITIES
CLIMBED TO THE TOP"Tops," New Magazine, Reveals
Amazing Inside Stories

The little known stories of thirty colored celebrities who had nothing to work with but their own nerve, courage and talent, and who are now being told in "Tops," a new magazine just released on the newsstands.

The achievements and successes of these people are so startling and glamorous that the articles read more like fiction than the true stories they are. "Tops" goes behind the scenes into the private and public lives of such men as Joe Louis, Duke Ellington, Father Divine, Dr. Carver, Bill Robinson, Rex Ingram, Walter White, E. Sims Campbell, famous cartoonist, and many others. Notable colored women also get their

share of attention. There is a fascinating story in "Tops" about Marian Anderson, who only had one chance in 300 of making good—and won out; of Ethel Waters, known from coast to coast for her songs and personality, of Zora Neale Hurston, famous novelist, Fredi Washington, the actress, and others.

Every single one of the thirty success stories told by "Tops" started "from scratch." These men and women had nothing to start with but their own stout hearts and their own native talents. Each made good in a big way strictly "on his own." Behind each of their successes is a story so thrilling, exciting, and inspiring that our readers will do well to know these stories—and see their own opportunities for making good.

"Tops" as a magazine is one of the finest we have seen yet. It is richly illustrated with dozens of photographs, many of them never before published. The type is large and easy to read, and the printing is done on fine glossy paper that makes the magazine an ornament around the house. We sincerely believe this magazine is one of the few that every member of the family will read from cover to cover.

New Magazine
Makes Appearance

"Tops" is the name of a new magazine, which has made its appearance on the newsstands. The magazine, in its own words, is "devoted to Negro achievement." It is published in New York, by the Rhame Publishing Company, which has offices at 9 Rockefeller Plaza.

The current number of the magazine does not carry any date, but it is number 2 of volume 1, which in publisher's terms means that the current number is the second issued. It carries the legend "Diamond Jubilee Number."

"Tops" goes behind the scenes into the private and public lives of such men as Joe Louis, Duke Ellington, Father Divine, Dr. Carver, Bill Robinson, Rex Ingram, Walter White, E. Sims Campbell, famous cartoonist, and many others. Notable colored women also get their share of attention. There is a fascinating story in "Tops" about Marian Anderson, Ethel Waters, of Zora Neale Hurston, famous novelist, Fredi Washington, the actress, and others.

The magazine sells for 25c at newsstands.

"Tops," a New
Magazine Now on
Sale at Newsstands

The Rhame Publishing Co., of New York City is publishing monthly a magazine, "TOPS," devoted entirely to Negroes of achievement. It shows the integrity of a people that has developed its talents richly, against tremendous handicaps. In showing gratitude to Mr. Walter White, secretary of the NAACP, Mr. George B. Murphy, publicity director of the Association; Mr. Roy Wilkins editor of The Crisis; and others who have cooperated in guiding the publishers in the projection of this magazine, the publisher dedicates to the Negro race "Tops" with an ultimate admiration of our success in pictures and writings. Such eminent Negroes as Walter White, Paul Robeson, Father Divine, Bill Robinson, Joe Louis, Nina Mae McKinney, Marian Anderson and an aggregation of others are honored in the magazine. The price is 25c at all news-

stands.

The magazine is a photographic news story of Negro achievement well illustrated in engravings and sketches.

New Magazine Makes
Appearance In Harlem

NEW YORK, Nov. 25—The National Review, published by Joshua McDonald McLean, has made its appearance for the November issue, replete with local and national interest.

Mr. McLean has published the magazine intermittently for several years, but now plans to make it a regular going concern. It is planned to circulate the magazine throughout the country through agents, and a subscription campaign and an appeal for literary manuscripts by mail has been launched.

A LOSS TO NEGRO JOURNALISM

By DR. KELLY MILLER

The Africo-American Presbyterian in the issue of August 11, 1938, announces its discontinuance after September 30. The Johnson C. Smith University, under the auspices of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church, has assumed the responsibility for its publication since 1891. Now that the university is asserting its independence from the Board of National Missions it does not feel able to continue the enterprise out of its own financial resources. The publication under a change of name, "The Advance," will be continued by the Unit of Work With Colored People of the Presbyterian Church. It is greatly to be regretted that the name of the Africo-American Presbyterian will not be perpetuated and carried forward. It will be difficult to transfer tradition, the loyalty and endearment which have gathered around the original title during the past sixty years to a heteronymic successor.

This announcement comes as a sudden surprise and a sad disappointment to those who, like myself, have been its constant or occasional readers since its beginning. The Africo-American Presbyterian is the oldest existing Negro weekly journal of continuous issue. Its purposes were clearly set forth in the first number, January, 1879, as a journal:

"Devoted to the Education, al, Material, Moral and Religious interests of our people in the South. . . . All questions arising under the various subjects above indicated are discussed from a Christian point of view. Each number contains the freshest and best news from our Southern field and from the Church at large."

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For the past fifty-nine years it has been a faithful and efficient organ for propagating the Presbyterian faith among colored people. Perhaps no other Northern Missionary agency has succeeded in building up a more intensely devoted following among its colored members. It has promoted a uniformly educated ministry and held them unswervingly to religious ideals and high moral standards. It enjoys an enviable record among other denominations in this field of Christian endeavor.

For the past sixty years this paper has had but two editors, the Rev. Dr. D. J. Sanders and the Rev. Dr. H. L. McCrorey. It happens that both of these distinguished educators were natives of Fairfield County, South Carolina, and received their early education in Fairfield Institute at Winnsboro, South Carolina, under Rev. Willard Richardson, a devoted Presbyterian missionary. It was in Fairfield Institute at the feet of Rev. Willard Richardson that I received my start and inspiration for the upward path of life. I narrowly missed being a student of Bid-

dle, which is only 72 miles north of Winnsboro, and was switched to Howard because Rev. Richardson had made some advantageous contacts with the faculty of that institution.

Dr. D. J. Sanders completed his education at Western Theological Seminary and was the first colored President of Biddle University. Indeed, this was the first instance where

the management of a Negro institution of higher learning was transferred from a white to a colored administration. For forty years under these two Negro Presidents Biddle (or Johnson C. Smith) University has been efficiently administered, and has been signally free from outbreaks, strikes, and uprisings which form the perpetual scandal of too many of our colleges and universities. Biddle University became a beneficiary of two good angels, Mrs. Johnson C. Smith, whom it honored by a change of name, and Mr. Duke, a North Carolina tobaccoist, who endowed it with over a million and a half dollars. Johnson C. Smith University is now the only Negro college which is adequately endowed to cover the field and do the work which it set out to accomplish.

Dr. D. J. Sanders, the editor and founder of the Africo-American Presbyterian, appears to be the originator of the term Africo to designate the American Negro. T. Thomas Fortune, editor of the New York Age, abridged this to Afro-American, which has since gained wide currency. However, the term Africo has a more regular grammatical derivation.

The reason given for discontinuance of the Africo-American Presbyterian, is that the Johnson C. Smith University has withdrawn from the support of the Presbyterian Church and will henceforth operate on its own independent basis. This has been the story of most of our colleges and universities. Hampton, Atlanta, Fisk, and Howard were founded and at first supported by religious denominations, but as soon as the infant was able to shift for himself he cut loose from his religious parentage and proceeded to operate on a purely secular basis. This is not only

true of Negro institutions, but of white institutions as well. Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Princeton, and Chicago have passed through the same experience. This shift from religious to purely secular support has entailed a change of religious and moral significance. It is widely charged that our schools and colleges have become Godless or pagan. They are for the most part non-religious if not un-religious. Let us hope that this will not be the fate of Johnson C. Smith University, but rather that it will persevere upon the foundation laid by the Presbyterian Church in the good old days of faith and loyalty to God and humanity.

We are told that the Africo-American Presbyterian will be succeeded by "The Advance," which will be under the support and management of the Presbyterian Church, though not of Johnson C. Smith University. Let us hope that the enduring foundation laid by the Africo-American Presbyterian and Biddle will continue stimulating zeal and enthusiasm for education and religion.

The Africo-American Presbyterian, unlike most of its Negro contemporaries, has adhered to its original purpose and confined its energies to religious and educational topics. It has not gone afield into the domain of politics, business and industrial enterprise which has beguiled so many Negro publications. Discontinuance of this paper will constitute a moral and spiritual loss to the race which it will be difficult to replace.

* Dr. F. J. Anderson was editor for several years.

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Oldest Negro Journal To Be Discontinued

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The New Advance

Welcome to the "New Advance,"—Charlotte's latest magazine, published in the interest of the four Synods of the Presbyterian Church by Rev. Frank C. Shirley, A.M., D.D., and is a mouthpiece for all the colored Presbyterians of the Northern Church. The New Advance is the successor to the Africo-American Presbyterian and is sent out twice a month. Dr. Shirley is able, a smooth writer, scholarly, and a thoughtful conservative of the theories and practices of the modern, as well as fundamental tenets of one of the great organizations of the Free and Dissenting Societies of the world. Protestant in inception and fine in its worship. May usefulness and long life characterize the New Advance.

SENATOR BULKLEY

**Felicitates The Editor Of The Gazette
And Commends His Fifty-five
Year's Work For Our People.**

United States Senate
Washington, D. C.
February 12, '38.

Hon. Harry C. Smith,
Editor Gazette, Cleveland, O.

Dear Mr. Smith: — I have just
learned that you celebrated your
75th birthday, last week, and I has-
ten to congratulate you.

You are to be commended, too, on



rounding out 55 years as an editor,
a period of time during which you
have campaigned constantly and
with fairness for the rights of the
people of your race.

You have made The Gazette an
outstanding publication of its kind
and my best wishes go out to you
and your newspaper for continued
success and prosperity. Kindest re-
gards.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Bulkley,

Ch. Com. on Banking and Currency

Negro Insurance

Magazine Enters Periodical Field

CLEVELAND, Nov. 17—(ANP)

—Coming as something entirely
new in the field of Negro periodi-
cals will be the "Insurance Coun-
sellor", a national magazine de-
voted to the business of insurance
as conducted by Negroes, which is
to be circulated on or about Nov.
20. Its primary objective will be to

furnish the field men with inspi-
ration, encouragement and practi-
cal sales aids and to inform the
general public of the many serv-
ices the companies are rendering.

The magazine has already re-
ceived the personal endorsement
of L. C. Boutwell and C. L. Townes,
president and secretary of the
National Negro Insurance associa-
tion.

The editor of the Insurance
Counsellor, Mrs. Jean Murrell
Strode, is a graduate of Western
Reserve university, a teacher in
the Cleveland public schools for
five years and has been employed
at various intervals as columnist
reporter, and advertising repre-
sentative by several newspapers.
She is also the state supervisor of
the Ohio Federation of Colored
Girls' clubs and is an active mem-
ber of Delta Sigma Theta soror-
ity.

LADY EDITOR



Courier
Mrs. Viola Drew Lewis, lovely and militant editor-publisher of the Tulsa Eagle, one of the leading newspapers in the Southwest. Mrs. Lewis has only been an Oklahoman for six years but has made her personality and influence felt all over the State of Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Eagle Supports Marland For U. S. Senate

(AN EDITORIAL)

In an open letter to Governor E. W. Marland, published on the front page of the Oklahoma Eagle, under date of January 22, the Tulsa publication took Governor Marland to task because of the attitude of the Oklahoma executive in connection with anti-lynching legislation then before the Senate of the United States.

Governor Marland, it will be recalled, had just telegraphed Senator McKellar, of Tennessee, an endorsement of the filibuster against the bill.

In the concluding paragraph of a very frank statement, the Eagle editor said:

Black Dispatch
"Governor, if we have anything to do with it, the Negroes of this state will, in the coming Senatorial race, whip you into the most ignominious retirement from public life you have ever heard of."

6-4-38
Now if you had read that statement in any journal in the nation other than the Oklahoma Eagle, we believe you could rely on such publication persisting in its determination to oppose betrayal of public trust. Not so with the editor of the Eagle. You will be shocked when we tell you that in its issue of May 28, the Oklahoma Eagle gives forthright endorsement to Governor Marland's candidacy for the United States Senate.

The Eagle gives as its reason for change of front a series of talks had with Governor Marland. In face of the fact that Negroes still want an anti-lynching bill, and that there

(Continued on Editorial Page)

Here is what **EDITOR MARC MORELAND** said about Governor Marland in January:

(New editor of Oklahoma Eagle)

Oregon Gets First Negro Paper Within Five Years

PORTLAND, Ore. -- (ANP) -- Saturday, the Negro population of Portland was presented with a new Negro weekly newspaper, "The Portland Observer". This is the first Negro paper to be published in the state of Oregon for approximately five years.

The Portland Observer is owned, edited and published by William H. McClendon, Sr. Mr. McClendon is well known in the Southeast. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. McClendon of Atlanta. While attending Morehouse college in 1934, Mr. McClendon won the J. E. Spingarn prize in an essay contest conducted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is a 1938 graduate of West Virginia State College.

Oregon State Has First Colored Paper In 5 Years

Portland, Ore., Dec. 22--(By Rual W. Bell for ANP)--Saturday, the Negro population of Portland was presented with a new Negro weekly newspaper, "The Portland Observer." This is the first Negro paper to be published in the state of Oregon for approximately five years.

The Portland Observer is owned, published and edited by William H. McClendon, Sr. Mr. McClendon is well known in the Southeast. He is the son of the Mr. and Mrs. A. McClendon of Atlanta. While attending Morehouse College in 1934, William H. McClendon won the J. E. Spingarn prize in an essay contest conducted by the N. A. A. C. P. He is a 1938 graduate of West Virginia State College.

W. Va. State Graduate Starts Oregon Paper

PORTLAND, Ore.--(C)--The Portland Observer, 1604 N. Williams Avenue, William H. McClendon, Sr., editor and publisher, was launched here Saturday, December 27, the first paper in the state in five years. Mr. McClendon is from Atlanta, Ga., and while attending Morehouse college in '34, he won the J. E. Spingarn prize in a N. A. A. C. P. essay contest. He graduated from West Virginia State College in '38.

COMBINE JOBS ON CHRISTIAN RECORDER

Philadelphia, Pa., -Sept. 8 (ANP) The editorship and management of the Christian Recorder, A.M.E. publication, have been combined.. George A. Singleton who has formerly been editor is now Business Manager as well. He assumed charge last week immediately after a resolution was passed by the Bishop's Council in session at Kittrell College. Details of the merger which separated the Recorder from the Publishing House management will be concluded September 28, when the Publication Board of the Church meets here with a committee of bishops including Bishops D.H. Sims, W.A. Fountain, E.J. Howard and H.Y. Tookes.

Courier
9-10-38
Pittsburgh. Pa.

Courier Praised By High Catholic Church Dignitary

NEW ORLEANS, La., Nov. 17—The Louisiana office of the Pittsburgh Courier is in receipt of a letter from Right Rev. Monsignor Peter M. H. Wynhoven, Active General Chairman of the Eighth National Eucharistic Congress, which was held in New Orleans.

This letter thanks the Courier for its co-operation in the publicity for the congress. Monsignor Wynhoven's letter to O. C. W. Taylor, state representative of The Pittsburgh Courier, is as follows:

"It is with a great deal of pleasure and with a sense of performing a duty that I extend to you my thanks as active general chairman of the Eighth National Eucharistic Congress, for the excellent co-operation given to the congress by the Pittsburgh Courier and yourself as its state representative.

"His Excellency, Archbishop Rummel, asked that I convey to you likewise, his own expressions of gratitude for your kind interest and assistance.

"I wish to compliment The Courier and yourself for the splendid publicity given the New Orleans Congress and especially for the fine display of pictures.

"For the fine spirit that you manifested and the contributions that you made towards the suc-

cess of the Congress through the publicity, I express the gratitude of the entire Congress committee.

With good wishes, I am,
Yours very truly,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoven.

I. W. O. To Publish New Magazine

Starting with January, 1939, the International Workers Order will issue a new magazine for its 145,000 members, called the "Fraternal Outlook".

Consisting of 36 pages and intended as a family magazine, the "Fraternal Outlook" will have pages for men, women and children. Peter M. H. Wynhoven, co-author of the play, "Turpentine", author of the book, "Poison, Potions and Profits", and long associated in the publishing field, is the managing editor.

The International Workers Order is a national fraternal benefit society with 2,000 lodges.

Nashville Post Banner

May 17, 1938

Nashville Publishers

Buy Negro Magazine

Herman J. D. Carter and Murray G. Blakemore have purchased The National Negro Mind, a monthly magazine, which will be published by them jointly with The National Gospel Digest, which will be issued quarterly, beginning in June. Editorial offices will be in Nashville.

Negroes Had Weekly In Tennessee Back In 1865

SHOWS COPY OF FIRST NEGRO PAPER

Grandfather of the Well-Known Canslers Edited and Published "The Colored Tennessean" In Nashville and Maryville.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 1—Harry Cansler, of Knoxville, bailiff in the United District court in session here for the past two weeks, brought to light in an interview for the Courier, that his grandfather William Bennett Scott published and edited the first Negro newspaper published in Tennessee. With other colored and white exhibited a copy of the sixteenth issue he conceived the idea of a normal school at Maryville for the

The yellowed copy bears a Nashville dateline of August 12, 1865. This idea had its fruition in the establishment of the Freedmen's Normal Institute, sponsored by the New England Yearly meeting of the Quakers and this school con-

Cansler said the copy has been handed down through members of his family and that only recently education among the Negroes of he became anxious to learn "what the South for a quarter of a century was in a carefully bound package. The school was established in 1872.

"My grandfather was born in 1812 in Statesville, N.C., but set out in Tennessee in Blount county to advocate members of his race as a saddle and harness maker associating themselves with the about 1853," Cansler said. "He made friends with the Quakers, made friends with the white people in East Tennessee, where as a ple among whom you live." In free Negro he carried on for many years that business and later the newspaper which he published in Nashville for only a brief period."

Of his grandfather he stated: the election of the Democratic "He was married to Minerva, daughter of Samuel J. Tilden." Scott Jones died the year 1844 and died about 1884 at his home in Tennessee about the year 1858.

Other widely-known grandsons and settled in East Tennessee. He came in contact with certain "Friends," or Quakers in East Tennessee who induced him to open a saddle and harness shop in that section. Except for living a brief period at Nashville, he spent the remainder of his life after coming to Tennessee, in Maryville, Blount county. Here he became an influential civic and political leader. For a number of years he edited the county newspaper which was alternately Republican and Democratic. Ninety-five per cent of his subscribers and readers were white people. In 1865 he started the publication of "The Colored Tennessean" at Nashville. This was the first Negro



Volume one, number 16, August 12, 1865, Nashville, Tennessee. . . . That is the date on "The Colored American," first Negro weekly paper published in Tennessee. It is being exhibited by Harry Cansler, bailiff in the East Tennessee district federal court, and was published by his grandfather, W. B. Scott, born in Statesville, N. C., in 1812. (Photo and cut by Chattanooga Times through courtesy of Jasper T. Duncan, staff correspondent).

Famed Texas Publication, Founded By W. E. King, Returns to Race Owners

Black Dispatch

Dallas Express Purchased Recently by Business and
Professional Group

2-26-38

To Celebrate 47th Anniversary In March

By FRITZ CANSLER

DALAS, Texas.—Monday in the offices of the Southwestern Negro Press, negotiations were completed by a group of local business and professional men, whereby the Dallas Express was purchased and returned to the exclusive ownership and control of Negroes. Listed as purchasers are: M. H. Jackson, pastor of that they can be justly proud of," New Hope Baptist Church; Dr. E. said M. H. Jackson as he and E. Ward, Bronze Mayor of Dallas; nounced the plan of the purchasers Henry Strickland, president of the to expand the services of the paper. Excelsior Life Insurance Co.; C. F. Beginning with the next issue Starks, President of People's Undertaking Co., and A. Maceo Smith, Executive Secretary of the Negro Chamber of Commerce. history and traditions of this paper

Quite significant was the closing of this deal as the Dallas Express will be typified and a new program of activity installed. The purchase is one the eve of its 47th anniversary. Founded in 1892 by the late W. E. King, the Dallas Express has who are wishing them well in this championed the cause of race development in the Southwest for near a half century. In 1930, because of financial difficulties, the Express fell in the hands of white control. Since that date it has been published by the Southwestern Negro Press with W. H. Pace as managing editor.

The past history of the Dallas Express is so studded with gems of race achievement that it has always been the desire of Negroes, since it was taken over by white publishers, that it would some day return to the control of Negroes. There was much jubilation in Negro circles Monday when the word was spread that the Dallas Express had been purchased by local Negro leaders.

Quite active in closing this deal was Bronze Mayor E. E. Ward, who is presently making a strenuous effort to encourage the development of Negro business. "We plan to give the people of Dallas and the State of Texas a newspaper

"Emancipator" Magazine

Makes Its Bow

Black Dispatch
By FRITZ CANSLER

2-10-38
DALLAS, Tex.—(AP) — The first issue of "The Emancipator"

has just been published. The magazine, a monthly, comes from Georgetown, Texas, and according to the announcement is published by Prof. and Mrs. John C. Granbery. For years Dr. Granbery has been a member of the faculty at Southwestern University in Georgetown. In his first issue the publisher states: "I stand for a philosophy that is definite and positive. It is no vague and accentuated liberalism that calls forth my loyalty. Call me crusader, propagandist if you like. But do not call me neutral."

Manteo, N. C., Dare Co. Times
March 18, 1938

WE ARE NOT DISCOURAGED

We began business with a typewriter, a desk, a willing mind. We hadn't a dollar in the business. We had enough credit to get a paper printed on time, and sold enough ads on the strength of our good name to pay for the first edition. We have progressed in less than three years to the point where acquaintances are willing to put money in with us. We have established in Manteo a plant equipped to turn out any kind of a job you can get from any other shop within a radius of one hundred miles. In three and a half years we consider that quite a feat and pat ourselves on the back.

We might say we have had many handicaps and discouragements. On further reflection we think not. We see a long way ahead, however, a bigger and brighter future. There is no limit to what one can accomplish except what limit one imposes on oneself. In the city of Norfolk, Virginia, a newspaper, operated, owned, by and for Negroes has attained a circulation of 30,000 or more. It has a plant and equipment worth \$80,000. It occupies a rank with the five biggest Negro newspapers in America.

The two Negroes who run it are P. B. Young, and W. F. Young. They were the sons of a Negro man at Littleton, N. C., who for 12 years was postmaster of that town. He ran a little handset weekly, and his boys learned to set type. In Norfolk, Virginia, the Journal and Guide, the organ of a Negro fraternal organization, had gone defunct with its parent. The Young boys persuaded a white broker to buy in the plant for them at \$1,500. They paid him back in installments, the business costing them \$3,000, quite in keeping with rates so often exacted of Negroes who borrow.

Anyone readily recognizes the barriers of jealousy, prejudice and enmity they must surmount. One easily understands the paucity of the field in which they sought the revenue to keep their venture going. Review of these facts shows us how to appreciate the remarkable energy, initiative and ability that went into the building of their weekly newspaper from its small beginning into an \$80,000 enterprise which employs 50 people and holds aloft the torch for its race.

Surely we can have no right to be discouraged in the running of a one-hoss weekly alone in our field, among friends and with the kind encouragement of companions of a lifetime. Surely the few dissenters cannot in the least chill our enthusiasm that grows with each passing week.

History Of Richmond Planet Oldest Colored Weekly Was Born In The Wake Of Freedom

13 Former Slaves Pooled Their Earnings To Start Project; Edmund A. Randolph, Yale Grad And Political Leader, Was First Editor-In-Chief

By M. A. NORRELL

The Civil War and slavery lay just seventeen years behind. One of the stormiest periods in the history of the nation was drawing to a close. The assassination of Lincoln, the turmoil of reconstruction and the Hayes-Tilden controversy were fresh in the memories of that day from the editorial on the part of school officials resulted in the dismissal of the Negro male school teachers. The death of Garfield had just occurred, and the political campaign which was to culminate in the defeat of James G. Blaine was in its height. Gathering in an upper room of a building located near the corner of Third and Broad streets, the ground floor of which was occupied by the book shop of Reuben T. Hill and W. H. Anderson, thirteen former slaves pooled their meager resources and started America's oldest Negro newspaper on a career which was destined to play an important part in moulding the opinions of Negroes in this city, State and nation. James H. Hayes, James H. Johnson, E. R. Carter, Walter Fitzhugh, George W. Lewis, James E. Robinson, Henry Hucles, Albert V. Norrell, Benjamin A. Graves, James E. Merriweather, Edward A. Randolph, William H. Anderson, and Reuben T. Hill were the men who figured in this historical project.

Among them was John Mitchell, Jr., a teacher in the Old Valley School, under James H. Hayes as principal. He was selected by the organizers to edit and manage the PLANET. Short-Mechanics Savings Bank, kept the Planet Printing Company, bringing into the organization other prominent young men of the day, including J. Andrew Bowler, M. B. Jones, John R. Childs and others. Under the direction of Mitchell, the PLANET began to prosper, which caused some of its former owners to make an attempt to wrest control of the paper from him. A credit suit filed by James H. Hayes, Edmund A. Randolph and others caused a sale of the paper at public auction by the sheriff of the city. The paper sold for \$400. The Rev. W. W. Brown then a powerful figure in the community and Grand Worthy Master of the Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers, purchased the paper for John Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell operated the paper as publisher and editor from that time until the date of his death in December, 1929.

The first editors of the paper were Edmund A. Randolph, a graduate of Yale and a leading politician of his day, who served as editor-in-chief with James E. Merriweather, an outstanding educator and civic leader, and E. R. Carter, also prominent in politics as contributing editors. Reuben T. Hill was selected to manage the paper while the other members of the group, mostly employed as public school teachers, contributed occasionally to its columns. The PLANET continued

earlessly and unflinchingly championed. Lynching was fought and lynch-ers were defied. Negro men, women and children were rescued from the injustice of courts and education, business and social endeavors were patronized and encouraged by the unconquerable editor. Neither threat of violence nor punishment, neither lure of reward nor favor, deterred nor turned his matchless defender of his race from his chosen course. The famous Outenberg cases, which resulted in the snatching of Mary and Poky James and Mary Abernathy from the allows, the sensational rescue of Simon Walker from a similar fate, the Fitchell-Bahen political alliance in old Jackson Ward politics and the split and subsequent bitter enmity between V. W. Brown and John Mitchell were among the early exploits of this restless character. As a result of the split between Mitchell and his earliest benefactors, the "Reformer" was established by Rev. W. W. Brown to counter the attacks of the vitriolic Mitchell. **MITCHELL'S CHAOTIC CAREER**

His dominance of Virginia Knights of Pythias and of the Negro business life of Richmond, the "Did God Call the Pastor" law suits which resulted from the selection of a pastor for the First Baptist Church after the death of the late Rev. James H. Holmes, his campaign for Governor of Virginia on the Lily Black Republican ticket and the unparalleled single handed fight made by him after the failure of the Short-Mechanics Savings Bank, kept the Planet in the public eye. It would take a volume in itself to detail the remarkable career of this remarkable man whose force of character, personality and power of leadership were unequalled in his day and generation. **OTHER NEWSPAPERS**

During the life of the Richmond PLANET, several other newspapers operated by Negroes have made their appearance in this city. The most prominent of these papers were the Virginia Star, edited by O. M. Stewart, Sr., the Virginia Baptist, edited by Prof. Joseph E. Jones, Prof. David Vassae and Rev. Z. D. Lewis; the Reformer edited by John H. Smith, E. W. Brown and James Poe; the Negro Advocate edited by James H. Hayes and J. C. Carter; the St. Luke Herald, the official organ of the Independent Order of St. Lukes, and the Richmond Voice owned and operated by a group of young Negro men. It is interesting to note that the Negro Advocate was the voice of the opposition which waged the bitter legal battle in the United States court against the Virginia Con-

sultion. John S. Wise of New York AFTER MITCHELL'S DEATH and James H. Hayes of this city were At the death of Editor Mitchell in business manager. the counsel testing the validity, while 1929, Roscoe C. Mitchell, nephew of INCORPORATED Attorney William A. Anderson appeared the late John Mitchell, Jr., became the The paper was published under this arrangement until June 1936 when the racial Life Insurance Company, president for the state of Virginia. The Rich-editor and publisher of the PLANET ownership passed to the Richmond of the National Ideal Benefit Society many newspapers that have been op-agement until December 7, 1931, when the management again changed and the ident; B. W. Perkins, Supreme Master created in Richmond by members of upon a reorganization M. A. Norrell, Planet Publishing Co., Inc. The off-vice president; J. B. Deans, Richmond this racial group, was added to the staff as editor and owners of the corporation for the first manager of the North Carolina Mutu-

WE ARE NOT DISCOURAGED

We might say we have had many handicaps and discouragements. On further reflection we think not. We see a long way ahead, however, a bigger and brighter future. There is no limit to what one can accomplish except what limit one imposes on oneself. In the city of Norfolk, Virginia, a newspaper, operated, owned, by and for Negroes has attained a circulation of 30,000 or more. It has a plant and equipment worth \$80,000. It occupies a rank with the five largest newspapers in America.

Anyone readily recognizes and understands the paucity of the field in which they sought the review. Review of these facts shows us how to appreciate the remarkable energy, initiative and ability that went into the building of their weekly news paper from its small beginning into an \$80,000 enterprise which employs 50 people and holds aloft the torch for its race.

History Of Richmond Planet
Oldest Colored Weekly Was
Born In The Wake Of Freedom
13 Former Slaves Pooled Their Earnings
To Start Project; Edmund A. Randolph, Yale Grad And Political Leader, Was First Editor.-In-Chief

James G. Blaine was at the height of his fame as editor of a

FIRST EDITORS

The first editor

R. Carter, also P. Beuben T 1929.

as contributing editors. Hill was selected to manage the paper while the other members of the group mostly employed as public school teachers, contributed occasionally to its columns. The PLANET continued

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year were: C. Bernard Gilpin, Secretary-manager of the Richmond Beneficial Life Insurance Company, president; B. W. Perkins, Supreme Master of the National Ideal Benefit Society; J. B. Deans, Richmond Mutual Life Insurance Co., Inc. The first manager of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co., Inc. was J. C. Brown, who was the first manager of the Richmond Mutual Life Insurance Co., Inc. The first manager of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co., Inc. was J. C. Brown, who was the first manager of the Richmond Mutual Life Insurance Co., Inc.

young Negro men. It is also noted that the Negro Advocate was the first to note that the opposition which waged its bitter battle in the United States court against the Virginia Con-

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al Life Insurance Co., secretary-treasurer; Byron Anderson, teller of the Consolidated Bank and Trust Company, auditor, and Dr. Leon A. Reid, prominent local dentist, chairman of the Board of Directors. M. A. Norrell continued as editor and managing director of the newspaper. The directors of the corporation were in addition to the officers Dr. Joseph T. Hill, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Wiley A. Hall, executive secretary of the Richmond Urban League, Mrs. Adelaide G. Taylor, Supreme Ruler of the Order of King David, Dr. A. W. Brown, pastor of the 6th Mount Zion Baptist Church, D. C. Deans, assistant manager of Agencies, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Co., Professors L. W. Davis, John M. Moore, and Charles T. Russell of the faculty of the Virginia Union University, James T. Carter, president of the Southern Aid Society of Virginia, Inc., A. D. Price, Jr., Robert C. Scott, O. P. Chiles, prominent local morticians and Attorney C. A. McKenzie.

THE MERGER

The corporate management was too short a duration to admit of a fair evaluation at this time. It follows that on June 4th, 1938, the Richmond PLANET will merge with the Baltimore Afro-American and be known in the future as the Richmond PLANET AFRO-AMERICAN.

During the past seven years of its existence, the paper has been printed by the Philadelphia Tribune, of which E. Washington Rhodes is editor.

"FAREWELL"

"I CANNOT say farewell in formal words". This was the valediction of the late Mr. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes upon his retirement from the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The valedictorian had turned nearly a century and had served a long, honorable career on the bench of America's highest tribunal. He had become one of America's most able and distinguished jurists, the infirmities of age, however, invariably triumph over will, discretion and ability. The rule was proved in the case of the eminent Mr. Justice Holmes.

It has again been proved in the case of THE RICHMOND PLANET. We too cannot say farewell in formal words.

The trail has been long, the vicissitudes many during the fifty-five tempestuous years this newspaper has been devoted to the defense of the rights and immunities of Richmond Negroes.

Here is the message from one in authority to those who have stood stalwart while the "Strong Arm", the emblem of the RICHMOND PLANET, has struck blow after blow in its crusade against the wrong and oppression visited upon a down trodden and well nigh defenseless racial group.

"I wish you would be kind enough to insert in the PLANET of May 28th, notice to the effect that this will be the last issue of the RICHMOND PLANET, as such, and that the next week it will merge with the Afro-American and will print its first issue as the Richmond Planet-Afro-American.

So runs the story.

"The play is ended, the curtain drops slow falling to the prompter's bell,

A minute yet the actor stops and turns around to say Farewell."

Richmond Editor



J. ROBERT SMITH who was this week named editor in charge of the RICHMOND PLANET and AFRO-AMERICAN, in Richmond, Va. He was formerly city editor of the Philly AFRO and broadcasting commentator over a Baltimore radio station for the paper. He is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, a Howard University and Philadelphia College of Law graduate.

N. C. DAILIES FIGHT FOR RACE READERS

By S. WYCLIFFE GARLINGTON
(Special The Pittsburgh Courier)

Annie Williams, died in New York and the remains are to be shipped, here later.

Prof. O. M. Money, of Scobey, has his school gaining. He has a new building and is looking forward to equipment for his school.

The Oakland school is taking on a new life. A primary room has been built this session and \$20.00 worth of school equipment has been bought Prof. S. H. Farrar is a live school man

Reporter.

SALISBURY, N. C., Jan. 6—Daily happenings or activities of Negroes in this small Southern city are NEWS—Daily News—to local white daily newspapers. This recent trend is startling, yet pleasing to Bronze Salisburians.

Until approximately four and a half months ago, there was only one daily newspaper here. "The Evening Post" and "The Herald" received about the usual space allotted colored people in the average Southern white paper. However, with the appearance of the second daily, "The Morning Herald," the tide changed.

February 18, 1938

COLORED NEWS

Last week was "Negro Health and History Week". The trustees and citizens and school children ended the week at the city school, rendering the following program: Rev. George W. Johnson, 93 years old, discussed the subject "The Religious Activities of the Negro during Reconstruction". He spoke of the brush arbor and the log church. Rev. J. H. Quinn discussed "The Political Condition during Reconstruction and After". R. C. Curry discussed "The Social Status of the Negro during Reconstruction". C. R. Roberts discussed "The help the white man has been to the negro". He told of the financial help and education. Prof. A. M. Money discussed "The Educational Condition of the Negro". He spoke of the blue-back Speller and of the log and daubed school houses, the carpet bag teachers and our present day teachers. John E. Ford discussed "The Political Condition after Reconstruction". Prof. T. H. Swearingen discussed "The financial condition of the Negro in Yalobusha County". He told of the mortgages which had been lifted. Much credit is given to Miss Annie Kelly, our Jeanes teacher, and Mrs. Rosa G. Love, our economics agent. Miss Minnie Tuggles, of Bryant school, won by the number of pupils. She had fifty.

Thus, behind the scene, is seen a struggle for the Negro's subscriptions, with the (seemingly liberal) "Morning Herald" gaining a fast headway over the "conservative" "Evening Post." "Liberal" is applied to the former (mostly) because it capitalizes the word "Negro" in both its "U-P" and local news items, while the latter follows the "old Southern custom" and uses the small "n" in both its "AP" and local articles. Seemingly, the progressiveness in being different (or just and right) in capitalizing "Negro" should warrant Negro support and exonerate the habit of paying to be insulted (with the small "n").

Here, seemingly, we picture the Negro as a pawn in an economic struggle—but what difference does it make if the "end" is of advantage to the people concerned?

Anyway, Bronze Salisburians are now receiving more thought as an important economic factor, and are being treated better, or given more consideration than heretofore.

William Williams, son of Mrs.